

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Grant and Congress.

From the New York Union. General Grant has put his foot down and declared that he will not permit the Presidency to be a pair of stocks. His requirement for the repeal of the civil tenure law is a requirement involving the restoration of the Executive office to its former form and its former freedom.

These three things mark at present the little spring which is to widen into a mighty river of contention. To be sure, the desire for economy is only an aspiration. But General Grant is a very practical man, and his aspirations soon find opportunity for realization.

Even a decent respect for the opinion of such mankind as Trumbull, Fessenden, Fowler, Henderson and Grimes antagonizes all the Butlers, Bingham, Chancellors, Foreman, Summers, Wades, Howards, Yateses, and Rameys of the party, while a deference to these latter estrange the anti-impeachment radicals, and those, more sensible, who have come to agree with them, the Mortons, Sherburnes, Frelinghuysens, Couplings, and Morrills of the organization.

Collectively speaking, the sudden stamp upon the Civil-tenure law has started the whole party and disaffected two-thirds of them in advance.

Franking Privileges.

From the Chicago Republic. The surprising developments which have been made since attention was called to an individual case of fraud on the Post Office Department, by the stamp counterfeiting the signature of a certain Congressman, indicate the stupendous prostitution to which the franking privilege has been subjected.

The whole subject deserves a searching and unparrying investigation at the hands of Congress; and offenders, whenever discovered, should be brought to condign punishment. One of the first duties which Senate and House owe both to themselves and to the country on reassembling is to appoint a special committee, several or joint, to ferret out these frauds upon the department.

Congressional Jobs.

From the N. Y. Herald. The Fortieth Congress has but two months more existence, and looking at its past history and at the vast budget of jobs before it and those in process of incubation, we fear the Treasury and the tax-payers will be made to sweat before it expires.

Without reckoning the interest on the public debt, the sums appropriated for the current expenses of the Government amount to four times what was expended nine years ago. Does any one believe this is necessary? Do we not all know that this is most reckless and monstrous extravagance?

There may be some few broad national projects for which Government aid may be lent, but it should and can be done in such a way as not to be a burden on the Treasury.

the most stringent measures to have the aid to the Pacific Railroad refunded. Another great work may be mentioned, perhaps, as justifying similar aid under proper security for repayment—that is, a telegraph line to connect Asia with America.

General Grant and His Relations to the Civil Service.

From the N. Y. Times. The holidays are over and the Government machine at Washington resumes its work. Congress reassembles to-day; the clerks of the various departments will again be at their desks; and what is more important than all, General Grant has returned to the capital.

There is in the country a widespread feeling of apprehension and alarm. Each section has, of course, its own special reasons for misgiving and fear. But above and beyond these local and special apprehensions, there is a general impression that our public affairs are, on the whole, in a bad way—and that none but very vigorous and resolute measures will put them right.

Office is sought now as a means of wealth—for the opportunities it affords for public plunder; and the number of men seeking it with such views, and by such means as are required, is increasing year by year with frightful rapidity.

And everywhere we find a new development of the "Ring" power—the power by which the few, acting in close combination, enlist the support by the use of money, of position, of patronage, and every form of public and private influence, virtually control the action of the various departments of the Government and compel obedience to their behests.

The disastrous effect of such a state of things is felt everywhere—not only in its immediate losses to the public treasury, but in lowering the tone of public morals and in degrading and demoralizing the public service. It tends to make office-holding the least respectable of all positions, whereas it ought to be the most honorable.

Whether with or without reason, the country looks to General Grant to remedy this state of things. His integrity of purpose, his single-minded regard for the public honor and welfare, and his complete and unique disinterestedness inspire a general confidence in his desire to correct the evil, while the unexampled hold he has on the public confidence, and the readiness of all classes and all parties to applaud and uphold him in every effort he may make for the accomplishment of that end, give him advantages for undertaking it which no other President for many years has enjoyed.

The whole country expects to see General Grant enter, at his accession, upon a bold, resolute, and determined crusade against the corruptions and abuses of the Government; and the bolder and more resolute he makes it, the more completely will he be sustained.

But he ought not to be hampered or fettered at the outset in the measures he may deem essential to the work. The Tenure-of-Office bill—just as it is in some of its principles—ought not to stand in his way. It unquestionably deprives him of the power he needs for the reforms which the country requires.

"Let Us Have Peace."

From the N. Y. Tribune. A godly number of the leading "Conservatives" of Virginia have been holding a conference at Richmond, and have concluded that they will make no further opposition to impartial suffrage, if coupled with universal amnesty.

We profoundly trust that a hearty welcome will be extended to this deputation by the Republicans in Congress. It may be that the plan which they submit will require modifications; and we urge that those who may see fit to demur to it shall also be accorded a patient hearing.

Slavery and Rebellion are dead. The integrity and patriotism of the Union are established beyond cavil. The very air throes of the Rebel spirit was the effort to consign the blacks to perpetual servitude as a legally inferior, powerless race.

It will be said that the enfranchisement of the blacks is secured, no thanks to the conservatives, and that they propose to make terms when they have no course left open save submission. But that is a false conclusion, founded on a superficial view of the case.

Virginia has to-day a population of about one million of whites to half a million blacks. In 1860 she will probably have three millions of whites to less than one million blacks.

Of those who took part in the Rebellion, a very large share "went with their State," because they deemed it chivalrous and fraternal to do so, without at all concurring in the necessity or the wisdom of secession.

They went into the war as they would have espoused a brother's quarrel, without considering the justice of his cause so long as his life was in danger. Nearly all these, with thousands of original and repentant secessionists, now echo General Grant's aspiration, "let us have peace."

"Agree with thine adversary quickly, while thou art in the way with him," is a most wise injunction. Where no vital principle, no dictate of honor or duty, is involved, he who concedes most to secure an adjustment will do better than though he bigged and staked for the utmost that could possibly be exacted.

Seeking His Reward. From "Brick" Pomeroy's N. Y. Democrat. Benjamin F. Butler, M. C. from Massachusetts, the Washington Dispatch have told us, acted the part of toady at President Johnson's New Year reception to a considerable and significant extent.

The proceedings and result of the impeachment lumburg are yet fresh in the minds of the people of this country. The part that Mister Butler took in those proceedings is well known and it is also remembered that, notwithstanding the vindictive feeling of the members and Senators against the President, a feeling that was capable of influencing them to a severe persecution of Mr. Johnson, he was only saved from conviction because of the intense hatred felt for Butler, who would have been punished into magnificent proportions had the impeachment trial proved a success.

As a cheeky proceeding it does not approach the attempt to secure a surrender of Fort Fisher by his powder explosions, or to envelop New Orleans in an atmosphere of loyalty by transporting the plate and valuables of the people from the city.

BRANDY, WHISKY, WINE, ETC.

Y. P. M. Y. P. M. Y. P. M. YOUNG'S PURE MALT WHISKY. YOUNG'S PURE MALT WHISKY.

There is no question as to the quality of the celebrated Y. P. M. It is the purest quality of Whisky manufactured from the best grain afforded by the Philadelphia market, and is sold at the low rate of \$2 per gallon, or \$125 per quart, at the salesrooms, No. 700 PASSYUNK ROAD, PHILADELPHIA.

CARSTAIRS & McCALL.

Nos. 126 WALNUT and 21 GRANITE STS., IMPORTERS OF Brandy, Wines, Gin, Olive Oil, Etc. Etc.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS FOR THE SALE OF PURE OLD RYE, WHEAT, AND BOURBON WHISKIES.

SONOMA WINE COMPANY

Established for the sale of Pure California Wines.

This Company offer for sale pure California Wines: WHITE, CATAWBA, BERRY, ANGELICA, CHAMPAGNE, PURE GRAPY BRANDY.

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS.

405 CHESTNUT STREET. OLD RYE HOTEL.

LUNCH OF VENISON and other Game in Season, every day from 10 to 12 M.

MIDDLE TEMPLE HOTEL AND RESTAURANT, No. 116 South SIXTH Street.

GEORGE ZIELELY, Formerly Fitzwater & Zieley, Fibert street, above Eighth street, has opened the old stand.

N. W. COR. THIRD AND WOOD STS. where he will be glad to see his friends.

MT. VERNON HOTEL, 81 Monument street, Baltimore.

Elegantly Furnished, with unsurpassed Cuisine—On the European Plan.—D. P. MORGAN.

GENT'S FURNISHING GOODS.

E. S. H. L. E. M. A. N. BROTHERS WILL OPEN A NEW STOCK OF Men's Furnishing Goods,

AT No. 1004 CHESTNUT Street—ON DECEMBER 15.

Selling off Old Stock at SEVENTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS.

H. S. K. G. Harris' Seamless Kid Gloves.

EVERY PAIR WARRANTED. EXCLUSIVE AGENTS FOR GENTS' GLOVES.

J. W. SCOTT & CO., No. 212 ALDEN ST. PHILA.

PATENT SHOULDER-SEAM SHIRT MANUFACTORY,

AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE. PERFECT FITTING SHIRTS AND DRAWINGS MADE FROM MEASUREMENTS AT VERY LOW PRICES.

ALL THE ARTICLES OF GENTLEMEN'S DRESS GOODS IN FULL VARIETY. WINCHESTER & CO., 112 N. 7th CHESTNUT Street.

DRUGS, PAINTS, ETC.

ROBERT SHOEMAKER & CO. N. E. Corner of FOURTH and RACE STS., PHILADELPHIA.

WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS,

IMPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF White Lead and Colored Paints, Putty, Varnishes, Etc.

AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED FRENCH ZINC PAINTS.

DEALERS AND CONSUMERS SUPPLIED AT LOWEST PRICES FOR CASH.

TRUSSES.

"BEELEY'S HARD RUBBER TRUSS" is the best and most comfortable used in healing, fitted to form, never breaks, never becomes loose, or moves from place.

DEALERS IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, AND GOLD.

WANTED. DEHAVEN & BRO.

Dealers in Government Securities, AND GOLD. No. 40 SOUTH THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

FINANCIAL.

THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY OFFER A LIMITED AMOUNT OF THEIR First Mortgage Bonds AT PAR.

Nine Hundred and Sixty Miles Grand Line to the Pacific Will be Open for Business in the Summer of 1869.

The regular Government Commissioners have pronounced the Union Pacific Railroad to be FIRST CLASS in every respect, and the special Commission appointed by the President says: "Taken as a whole, THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD HAS BEEN WELL CONSTRUCTED, AND THE GENERAL ROUTE FOR THE LINE EXCEEDINGLY WELL SELECTED."

By its charter, the Company is permitted to issue its own FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS to the amount of the Government Bonds, and no more.

These Bonds are a First Mortgage on the whole road and all its equipments. Such a mortgage upon a road, for a long time, will be the only railroad connecting the Atlantic and Pacific States, takes the highest rank as a safe security.

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FINANCIAL.

L. W. CLARK & CO. BANKERS, No. 35 SOUTH THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

DEALERS IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, STOCK, GOLD AND NOTE BROKERS.

Accounts of Banks, Firms, and Individuals received, subject to check at sight.

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GENERAL AGENTS, FOR PENNSYLVANIA AND SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY, OF THE NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY is a corporation chartered by special Act of Congress, approved July 25, 1868, with a CASH CAPITAL, \$1,000,000, FULL PAID.

Liberal terms offered to Agents and Solicitors, who are invited to apply at our office.

Full particulars to be had on application at our office, located in the second story of our Banking House, where Circulars and Pam